

Columbia Democrat.

"I have sworn upon the Altar of God, eternal hostility to every form of Tyranny over the Mind of Man."—Thomas Jefferson

H. WEBB, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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TERMS:

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THE GARLAND.



"With sweetest flowers enrich'd,
From various gardens cull'd with care."

THE GENIUS OF NIAGARA.

BY THE REV. JOHN C. LORD, D. D.

Proud Demon of the waters—thou
Around whose stern and stony brow
Circles the rainbow's varied gem—
The Vapor Spirit's diadem—
While rushing headlong at thy feet,
The everlasting thunders meet.

Throned on the mists, around thy form
Is dashing an eternal storm,
Whose ceaseless, changeless earthquake
Shook

The tempest of old Ocean mock,
And the dark Sea-King yields to thee.
The meed of might and majesty.

Death, Sound immensity have lent
Their terrors to thy element:
Thy congregated waters yell
Down caverns fathomless as Hell,
While heaven's glorious hues are set
About thy gorgeous coronet.

Titanic Winter swives in vain
To bind the ice his icy chain,
Which rent by thy resistless wave
Finds in thy fearful depths—a grave;
Or the torn fragments glistening be
In the glare of thy kingly eye.

A silvery web among thy trees
Carroll'd by the passing breeze
The vanquished Ice-King for thee weaves,
And gives thee gems for winter leaves,
And rears the column, bright and vast,
Thine radiance through thy halls to cast.

The Giant Time has never yet
His footstep in thy waters set;
Grimly passing thy fall, he tries
To notch his hye-gone centuries
Along the dark and devious track
Of the rock crashing Cataract.

Emblem of Power—the mighty sun
Hath found and left thee roaring on,
Thou wert with Chaos, ere his light
Shone out upon the starless night,
Relic of that awful day
In all its wild confusion lay.

When air, earth, and sea, and sky
Were chaos, and together lie,
When judgment fires are kindling o'er
Old Nature's wreck—Niagara's roar,
First peep in the ear of Time,
Shall sing his requiem sublime.

The last leap of thy waves shall be
The sign of his death agony.

"Can you tell me where Mr. Smith
Lives, Mister?"
"Smith—Smith—what Smith! there
were a good many of that name in these
parts, my name is Smith."

"Way I don't know his other name
but he's a sour, crabbed, and a cross sort
of a feller, and they call him Crab
the."

"I suppose I'm the man."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A WOMAN'S REVENGE.

It was a bright, glad day in spring, and Broadway was alive with gaiety and bustle. A stranger who had been crossing the great thoroughfare at noon, somewhere about the corner of Murray street, would have wondered what object it could be on the other side of the way that was disturbing the whole street, and without exactly drawing a crowd, was attracting every body's attention, and making gentlemen seek an excuse for stopping and looking back, and almost envy the humble wayfarers who were privileged to be ungentle. A denizen of New York, however, who had only heard of the commotion, would at once have known that it must be Miss Kaye, stepping from her carriage into the store of her jeweller. Her Joe-colored carriage, obstructed by a crowd of equipages which stood in front of Tenney's, had drawn up some doors off, and in order to reach the place, she, whose pearly shoe not often touched the pavement, was once compelled to waltz with the world with noble walking. The instant her blue and white liveries were seen opening the door and rattling the steps down, a simultaneous impression seemed to be produced upon the crowd that was loitering along the sidewalk; they drew back on all sides, a kind of avenue was formed, and she stepped forward, alone, with a magnificent, elastic tread, as if the earth yielded beneath her feet. Fortunately, at the very spot, a bore held me by the button. (Amiable bore! I patted him when we parted, and for the first time in my life, recognized why beneficent Providence had created bores, that held people by the button.) I gazed with a delight almost into homage. Majesty softened into delicious beauty—grandeur of attitude and feature, made lovely by a pervading spirit of sweetness and sympathy—produced in her a union that charmed you ere you could admire. I dare say it will seem an odd thing to say, but there is nothing that has since reminded me so much of the impression she then produced upon the eye, as the bright fountains in the Park there was in her the same easy, I may say reluctant magnificence; the splendid purity and soft sparkle, combined with such an entire unrestraint and abandonment of effort that you felt as if in that form and motion, the very essence of grace were made palpable before your eyes, and as if the variety of movement was the wantonness of a nature that strove to, but could not escape from its perpetual doom of elegance. Started back, in spite of myself, into the age of poetry and goddesses I thought straightway of the apparition of Venus to the Trojan by the wooden margin of the Tyrsin city, and was beginning to fall into my old tunes and Latin, but I fell soon, in truth, I was below the mark, and that these stood before me something of a truer dignity and impression than all their goddesses together. I mean a delicate pure, high-souled woman. I confess, while she was a distance from me, and I had but a glimpse of her; I felt a certain flutter about my heart, but as she came near me, that faded away, and yielded to a profound and distant reverence. I cast down my eyes and lifted them only as she vanished through the door of the shop.

Miss Kaye's parents were both dead, and she was the sole mistress of one of the largest fortunes in New York. Her first winter in company had been concluded by the announcement of her engagement to Mr. Hanbury, a man of high fashion, possessing undoubtedly superior powers, great cultivation, and immense resources of manner. Men who knew Mr. Hanbury, were surprised at her choice, and those who knew and valued her, regretted it not a little; for they deemed him a thorough worldling, whose principles and sentiments were such as a life of libertinage on the continent was likely to produce, and whose purpose were utterly selfish and base.

Such indeed, or worse, he really was, but the truth is, the most intelligent woman is no judge of a man who pays her attention. Miss Kaye did not know the nature of the man, so perfect was his art and dissimulation.

She admired and esteemed him, and in the prospect that was before her, was as happy as the highest hopes and the kindest intentions on her part could make her. It was in reference to some arrangements relating to that expected even that she had gone into Tenney's with her beaming face full of pleasantness and life, when her attention was caught by the voice of Mr. Hanbury, who, in company with another person was standing with his back towards her, leaning against the frame of the glass in earnest conversation. Neither perceived Miss Kaye, although she approached within hearing distance of them.

"I marry her only for her money," said he, almost in a whisper, but loud enough for her to overhear his words distinctly, "and within a month afterwards shall go to Paris alone."

Miss Kaye left the store immediately, unperceived by them both. It was fortunate for her that, in the interval of her absence, her carriage had drawn immediately in front of the shop door, of which she must have fallen on the pavement. As it was, with a dazed head, she tottered forwards, and the servant who stood there caught her in his hands. She rallied with a powerful effort, and saying to the footman in a faint voice—"Home!" got into the vehicle. One who had seen those pale shrunken, trembling features—the fixed, glaring eye, the wretched lip, the distortion and deadly agony of the whole face, could not have recognized the glorious countenance from which a moment before, power and hope had looked so majestically forth. The footman seeing his mistress was ill, ordered the coachman to drive with the utmost rapidity, and in a few minutes Miss Kaye was at her home.

She opened her carriage door immediately, and seeing her mistress throw herself out before the steps were down, the honest fellow caught her in his arms and carried her all the way into the drawing room. He placed a chair and handed her a tumbler of water.

In a few minutes her physical weakness was conquered. Miss Kaye rose and walked into her chamber summoning all the determination and energies of her nature, as shown to consider her course.

It was an intense & awful struggle, which wrung her spirit. The quick stern working of her lip, flush of her cheek, the flashing of her eye, told with what strength her purpose was developing.

"He shall feel his baseness!" she muttered to herself.

On the following morning she sat alone in the drawing room, when Mr. Hanbury came in. Orders had been given to admit no other person.

"Do you think," said she, as soon as he was seated, fixing upon him that dark eye which burned with the keenest and loftiest fires of moral indignation and intellectual contempt, "that there are men in the world wholly destitute of soul?"

Her manner was much controlled and her voice calm; yet, in despite of effort, her eye vibrated with a searching sharpness of sarcasm which astonished Mr. Hanbury, and agitated him not a little. The consciousness of what his deservings was in respect to her, came upon him with a blind, remorseless fear, that shook his spirits to the foundation.

He answered, not knowing what she could be meaning:

"There are persons, I think, who, if they never had souls, have succeeded in wearing all trace of them out of themselves."

She rose and stood before the table on the opposite side of which he sat.

"I have been insulted, sir! outraged through every feeling of my nature. I am a solitary and undivided woman, protected only by those sentiments of honor that dwell in the breast of every GENTLEMAN, whose feeling of common humanity which are acknowledged by every MAN. I have found but one person utterly insensible to those impressions—yourself! I am aware of the motive which led you to solicit my hand. I was a bystander to your conversation in which your nature displayed itself with about a mask. 'I marry her only for her money.' Within a month afterwards, I go to Paris alone."

The only revenge I have to take is, to make you feel the utter paltriness of your character, by showing you the immeasurable difference between your views and mine. You shall learn the true dignity of such sentiments as yours, by seeing the utterable difference in which I hold those things which your soul esteems above all, then part forever. On this table are deeds conveying to you one half of my estate, from which you may extract that money for which you have been willing to encumber, though only for a month, it seems—with a wife. In accordance with a form which has been pointed out to me, I here deliver them to your exclusive use. Enjoy that money, and remember while doing so, that you owe that enjoyment to the intense contempt a woman feels for you, and let that remembrance cause you to be ever companioned in your secret soul by your own utter contempt for yourself."

She retreated into the adjoining room, waving her hand as she disappeared she said, "You may retire, sir."

Mr. Hanbury sat for a moment, overwhelmed with dismay and shame, he then dashed the papers upon the floor, and hastened out of the house.

From that blow he never recovered. In spite of every effort to make head in his own mind against the sense of self-contempt, and the consciousness of the thorough baseness of his principles, nothing could stand against the remembered look & glance of that woman. He felt like a detected felon. He never could endure to see her again. The confidence with which he had pursued his former career was struck down forever. He withdrew from society, and giving himself up to the lowest occupations of what is called pleasure, has sunk ignominiously into a grave.

INTERESTING FACTS.

The population of the earth is estimated at one thousand millions. Thirty millions die annually, eighty-two thousand daily, three thousand four hundred and twenty one every hour, and fifty-seven every minute.

A bushel of wheat weighing 62 pounds, contains 650,000 kernels. In Greece it was the custom at meals for the two sexes always to eat separately.

The Romans lay on couches at their dining tables, on their left arms, eating with their right.

Noah's Ark was 546 English feet long 24 broad, and 54 high. It was 15 feet thick enough for three chariots abreast.

Babylon was 60 miles within the walls of which were 75 feet thick 400 feet high.

A clean skin is as necessary to health as food.

Vinegar bottled with myrrh or camphor sprinkled in a room, corrects its purity.

Hops entwined to the left, and beans to the right.

Gold may be beaten into leaves, so thin that 250,000 would be only an inch thick.

The earth is 7,616 miles in diameter, and 24,830 miles round.

Forests of standing trees have been discovered in Yorkshire England, and in Ireland, imbedded in stone.

There is iron enough in the blood of 42 men, to make fifty horse shoes, each weighing half a pound.

A man is taller in the morning by half an inch, than he is at night.

Water is the only universal medicine, by it all diseases may be alleviated or cured.

About the age of 25, it is said, the lean man becomes fatter, and the fat man leaner.

The atoms composing a man, are believed to be changed every forty days, and the bones in a few months.

Fossil remains on the Ohio, prove that it was once covered by the sea.

When the sea is blue color, it is deep water; and when green, shallow.

A map of China made one thousand years before Christ, is still in existence. The 14th of January, on an average of years, is the coldest day in the year.

In water sound passes at the rate of 8,508 feet per second. In air, 1,242 feet per second.

In the Arctic regions, when the thermometer is below zero, persons can converse at more than a mile distant.

Dr. Jamieson asserts that he heard every word of a sermon at the distance of two miles.

A hand used for measuring horses, is four inches long.

Ezekiel's reed was 18 feet 11-8 inches long.

There are 2,500 known species of fishes.

Perfectly white cats are deaf.

The bones of birds are hollow, and filled with air instead of marrow.

A single house fly produces in one season, 20,050,320!

The flea jumps 200 times its own length equal to a quarter of a mile for a man.

The black ostrich stands 9 feet high.

In the human body there are 240 bones.

A GLUTTON.

On Thursday, says an English paper, a fellow named George Siddle, a cabman, living at Mile end, undertook for a wager of twenty shillings to eat, within the space of two hours, a leg of mutton, weighing nine pounds, a peck of peas, and five pounds of potatoes, which he accomplished, having twelve minutes to spare. During his meal he drank three quarts of beer, and his conclusion declared he could have managed a pound or two more within the same time.

A COOL APOLOGY.

"Oh!" said a poor sufferer to a dentist "that is the second wrong tooth you've pulled out!" Very sorry sir, said the blundering operator, "but as there were only three when I began, I'm sure to be right the next time."

"What is the matter, John?"

"Sam have a bible at me and hit me on my head."

"Well, you are the only boy of the family on which the bible ever made an impression—cry as long as you please."

"In order to love mankind, expect but little from them; in order to view their faults without bitterness, we must accustom ourselves to pardon them, and perceive that indulgence is a justice to which frail humanity has a right to demand from wisdom."

Man owes Woman a vast moral debt, which she has no means of liquidating in any shape, he will become bankrupt in the eye of heaven. Think of it, ponder on it, you proud lords of creation, and make an early settlement.

DIVISION OF LABOR.

A certain preacher, who was holding forth to a somewhat wearied congregation, lifted up his eyes to the gallery, and beheld his son pelting the people below with chestnuts. Dominie was about to administer, *ex cathedra*, a sharp and stringent reprimand for this fragrant act of impiety and disrespect, but the youth anticipating him, bawled out, at the top of his voice—

"You mind your preaching, daddy, & I'll keep them awake!"

The scene that ensued may be safely left to the imagination.

PROSPERITY OF OREGON.

The Oregon Settlers, it is said last year raised a surplus of 100,000 bushels of wheat. A grist mill with three run of stones was put in operation at Walla Walla this year. Mr. Abernethy formerly of New York City has been elected Mayor of Oregon City at the Falls. He has gone to the Sandwich Islands to procure merchandize, which was scarce.

GOOD EXCUSE.

"John," said a pedagogue to the boy, "what's detained you? How came you so late to school?"

"Well, sir, I had soup for dinner, and had to wait for it to cool."

"Take your seat, your excuse is sufficient."

A Tennessee paper talks of a chap at Holly Springs, who was so astonished at seeing a lady bring music from her piano, that, after listening for a minute or two, he withdrew his head and hallooed after his companion, I say, Jim! come back here, darraition seize me, if there aint a woman pulling music out of chest!

A young Miss, having accepted the offer of a youth to gallant her home, and afterwards fearing that jukes might be cracked at her expense, if the fact should become public dismissed him about half way enjoining secrecy. "Don't be afraid," said he, "of my saying anything about it, for I feel as much ashamed of it as you do."

A fool's tongue is long enough to cut his throat; a tattler's is long enough to cut half the throats of a whole neighborhood.